

IN THE CLAIMS

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Where claims have been amended and/or canceled, such amendments and/or cancellations are done without prejudice and/or waiver and/or disclaimer to the claimed and/or disclosed subject matter, and the applicant and/or assignee reserves the right to claim this subject matter and/or other disclosed subject matter in a continuing application.

Listing of Claims:

What is claimed is:

1-155. (Cancelled)

156. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling copyrights of digital data, comprising:

receiving by a user device at least one of a plurality of utilization permit keys that ~~corresponds only to,~~ wherein said plurality of utilization permit keys comprise:

a first utilization permit key capable of use in cryptographic operations and pre-defined to permit at least one of different types of uses of the digital data requested by the user wherein the different types of uses use of digital data comprising comprise one or more of the following functions of: displaying, editing, storing, copying, or transferring, display, edit, storage, copy, or transfer, or combinations thereof each of the

~~utilization permit keys permitting only the corresponding at least one of the different types of uses of the digital data, of said digital data, and~~

a second utilization permit key capable of use in cryptographic operations and pre-defined to permit at least one use of digital data comprising one or more of the following functions of: displaying, editing, storing, copying, or transferring, or combinations thereof, of said digital data, wherein at least one function of the second utilization permit key is different than at least one function of the first utilization permit key; and

decrypting encrypted digital data using the received at least one of the plurality of utilization permit keys for performance of only the permitted requested use of the digital data as pre-defined by the plurality of utilization permit keys.

157. (Cancelled)

158. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 156, wherein the plurality of utilization permit keys include a display permit key permitting only display of the digital data, an edit permit key permitting only display and editing of the digital data, a storage permit key permitting only storage of the digital data, a copy permit key permitting only copying of the digital data, and a transfer permit key permitting only transferring of the digital data.

159. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 156, wherein a copyright control program ensures said decrypting is for performance of only the permitted requested use of the digital data.

160. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 156, further comprising displaying a copyright control message by a copyright control program when the user device attempts one of the different types of uses of the digital data different from the permitted requested use of the digital data.

161. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 156, further comprising limiting, by a copyright control program, a number of times the digital data is used.

162. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 156, further comprising limiting, by a copyright control program, a number of times the received at least one of the plurality of utilization permit keys is used for decryption of the encrypted digital data for the permitted requested use of the digital data.

163. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 156, further comprising maintaining, by copyright control program, copyright information on the digital data.

164. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 163, wherein the copyright information includes history information on authorship.

165. (Currently Amended) A method according to any one of claims 159 to 163, further comprising receiving the copyright control program by the user device with the received at least one of the plurality of utilization keys.

166. (Currently Amended) A method according to any one of claims 159 to 163, further comprising receiving the copyright control program by the user device with the encrypted digital data.

167. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 156, wherein the database includes a key control center for said maintaining of the plurality of utilization permit keys.

168. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 167, further comprising receiving the copyright control program from the key control center by the user device with the received at least one of the plurality of utilization permit keys.

169. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling copyrights of digital data, comprising:

receiving by a user device at least one of a plurality of utilization permit keys ~~that corresponds only, wherein said plurality of utilization permit keys comprise:~~

a first utilization permit key capable of use in cryptographic operations and pre-defined to permit at least one of the different types of uses of the digital data requested by the user—use of digital data comprising one or more of the following functions of: displaying, editing, storing, copying, or transferring, display, edit, storage, copy, or transfer, or combinations thereof each of the utilization permit keys permitting only the corresponding at least one of the different types of uses of the digital data, of said digital data, and

a second utilization permit key capable of use in cryptographic operations and pre-defined to permit at least one use of digital data comprising one or more of the following functions of: displaying, editing, storing, copying, or transferring, or combinations thereof, of said digital data, wherein at least one function of the second utilization permit key is different than at least one function of the first utilization permit key;

decrypting encrypted digital data using the received at least one of the plurality of utilization permit keys only when the permitted requested use of the digital data is display or edit as pre-defined by the plurality of utilization permit keys; and

performing only the permitted requested use of the digital data as pre-defined by the plurality of utilization permit keys based on the at least one of the plurality of utilization permit keys.

170. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 169, further comprising encrypting the decrypted digital data again after performance of the permitted requested use, when the permitted requested use is display or edit.

171. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 169, wherein the plurality of utilization permit keys include a display permit key permitting only display of the digital data, an edit permit key permitting only display and editing of the digital data, a storage permit key permitting only storage of the digital data, a copy permit key permitting only copying of the digital data, and a transfer permit key permitting only transferring of the digital data.

172. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 169, wherein a copyright control program ensures said step of performing is only of the permitted ~~requested~~ use of the digital data.

173. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 169, further comprising displaying a copyright control message by a copyright control program when the user device attempts one of the different types of uses of the digital data different from the permitted ~~requested~~ use of the digital data.

174. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 169, further comprising limiting, by a copyright control program, a number of times the digital data is used.

175. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 169, further comprising limiting, by a copyright control program, a number of time the received at least one of the plurality of utilization permit keys is used for decryption of the encrypted digital data.

176. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 169, further comprising maintaining, by a copyright control program, copyright information on the digital data.

177. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 176, wherein the copyright information includes history information on authorship.

178. (Currently Amended) A method according to any one of claims 172 to 176, further comprising receiving the copyright control program by the user device with the received at least one of the plurality of utilization permit keys.

179. (Currently Amended) A method according to any one of claims 172 to 176, further comprising receiving the copyright control program by the user device with the encrypted digital data.

180. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 169, wherein the database includes a key control center for said maintaining of the plurality of utilization permit keys.

181. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 180, further comprising receiving the copyright control program from the key control center by the user device with the received at least one of the plurality of utilization permit keys.

182. (New) An apparatus, comprising:
means for receiving by a user device at least one of a plurality of utilization permit keys,
wherein said plurality of utilization permit keys comprise:

a first utilization permit key capable of use in cryptographic operations and pre-defined to permit at least one use of digital data comprising one or more of the following functions of: displaying, editing, storing, copying, or transferring, or combinations thereof, of said digital data, and

a second utilization permit key capable of use in cryptographic operations and pre-defined to permit at least one use of digital data comprising one or more of the following functions of: displaying, editing, storing, copying, or transferring, or combinations thereof, of said digital data, wherein at least one function of the second utilization permit key is different than at least one function of the first utilization permit key; and

means for decrypting encrypted digital data using the received at least one of the plurality of utilization permit keys for performance of only the permitted use of the digital data as pre-defined by the plurality of utilization permit keys.

183. (New) The apparatus of claim 182, wherein the plurality of utilization permit keys include a display permit key permitting only display of the digital data, an edit permit key permitting only display and editing of the digital data, a storage permit key permitting only storage of the digital data, a copy permit key permitting only copying of the digital data, and a transfer permit key permitting only transferring of the digital data.

184. (New) The apparatus of claim 182, further comprising means for ensuring said decrypting is for performance of only the permitted use of the digital data.

185. (New) The apparatus of claim 182, further comprising means for displaying a copyright control message when the user device attempts one of the different types of uses of the digital data different from the permitted use of the digital data.

186. (New) The apparatus of claim 182, further comprising means for limiting a number of times the digital data is used.

187. (New) An article comprising: a computer readable storage medium having stored thereon instructions that, if executed by a user device, cause the user device to:

receive at least one of a plurality of utilization permit keys, wherein said plurality of utilization permit keys comprise:

a first utilization permit key capable of use in cryptographic operations and pre-defined to permit at least one use of digital data comprising one or more of the following functions of: displaying, editing, storing, copying, or transferring, or combinations thereof, of said digital data, and

a second utilization permit key capable of use in cryptographic operations and pre-defined to permit at least one use of digital data comprising one or more of the following functions of: displaying, editing, storing, copying, or transferring, or combinations thereof, of said digital data, wherein at least one function of the second utilization permit key is different than at least one function of the first utilization permit key; and

decrypt encrypted digital data using the received at least one of the plurality of utilization permit keys for performance of only the permitted use of the digital data as pre-defined by the plurality of utilization permit keys.

188. (New) The article of claim 187, wherein the plurality of utilization permit keys include a display permit key permitting only display of the digital data, an edit permit key

permitting only display and editing of the digital data, a storage permit key permitting only storage of the digital data, a copy permit key permitting only copying of the digital data, and a transfer permit key permitting only transferring of the digital data.

189. (New) The article of claim 187, wherein said instructions, if executed, further cause the user device to ensure said decryption is for performance of only the permitted use of the digital data via a copyright control program.

190. (New) The article of claim 187, wherein said instructions, if executed, further cause the user device to display a copyright control message via a copyright control program when the user device attempts one of the different types of uses of the digital data different from the permitted use of the digital data.

191. (New) The article of claim 187, wherein said instructions, if executed, further cause the user device to limit a number of times the digital data is used via a copyright control program.